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VICE PRESIDENT OF HOUSING — JEANETTE KOPICO

May 27, 2008

Ms. Delores Brown
Chief, Office of Environmental Compliance
Department of Water Resources
P.O. Box 942836
Sacramento, CA 95814

Patti Idlof
Natural Resource Specialist
Bureau of Reclamation
2800 Cottage Way, MP-150
Sacramento, CA 95825

Re: Notice of Preparation — Environmental Impact Report and Environmental Impact
Statement for the Bay-Delta Conservation Plan

Dear Ms. Brown and Ms. Idlof:

On behalf of the thirty-one member counties of the Regional Council of Rural Counties (RCRC), I appreciate the opportunity to submit the following comments relating to the Notice of Preparation (NOP) of an environmental impact statement/environmental impact report (EIS/EIR) for the Bay Delta Conservation Plan (BDCP) for the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta.

Project Area. The NOP states that it may be necessary for the BDCP to include conservation actions outside of the statutory Delta that advance the goals and objectives of the BDCP within the Delta including, as appropriate, conservation actions in areas upstream of the Delta.

RCRC agrees the statement also contained in the NOP that any conservation actions outside the statutory Delta should be implemented pursuant to cooperative agreements or similar mechanisms with local agencies, interested non-governmental organizations, landowners, and others.

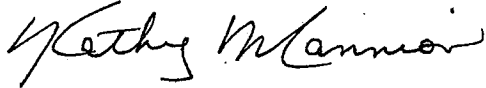
Conveyance. The NOP states that a key BDCP planning goal is to provide for the conservation and management of covered species within the planning area, and that one of the conservation actions to be analyzed is improved water conveyance infrastructure in the Delta (i.e. dual or isolated conveyance systems).

Widespread acceptance of new and/or improved water conveyance facilities will depend upon how the BDCP handles the issues of concern to the areas of origin. The BDCP must

acknowledge California's water rights priority system, and state and federal law relating to the areas of origin, county of origin, and watersheds of origin. Further, the BDCP must include assurances that water rights and water supplies of upstream communities will not be adversely impacted by the construction, operation, or management of new and/or improved water conveyance facilities.

In conclusion, RCRC appreciates the opportunity to comment on the NOP, and looks forward to participating in future opportunities as the EIR/EIS is developed.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Kathy Mannion".

Kathy Mannion
Director of Water and Power

cc: BDCP Steering Committee